

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT FORM
2017 REGULAR SESSION
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Amend printed copy of **SB 145/GA**

On page 23, after line 16, insert the following:

"➔Section 11. KRS 121.170 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Any committee, except a federally registered out-of-state permanent committee, organized under any provisions of this chapter shall register with the registry, by filing official notice of intention at the time of organization, giving names, addresses, and positions of the officers of the organization, identifying an official contact person of the committee, and designating the candidate or candidates, slate of candidates, or question it is organized to support or oppose on forms prescribed by the registry; except that no campaign committee for a slate of candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall be registered prior to the filing of a joint notification and declaration by the slate of candidates pursuant to KRS 118.125 and 118.127. No entity which is excluded from the definition of "campaign committee" established in KRS 121.015(3)(a) shall be required to register as a committee with the registry. The name of the committee shall reasonably identify to the public the sponsorship and purpose of the committee. The forms filed with the registry shall require the registrant to clearly identify the specific purpose, sponsorship, and source from which the committee originates; and the registry shall refuse to allow filing by any committee until this requirement has been satisfied.
- (2) Any person who acts as a fundraiser by directly soliciting contributions for an election

Amendment No. HFA 7

Rep. Rep. Kenny Imes

Committee Amendment

Signed: _____

Floor Amendment

LRC Drafter: Kiser, Roberta

Adopted: _____

Date: _____

Rejected: _____

Doc. ID: XXXX

campaign of a candidate or slate of candidates for statewide-elected state office or an office in a jurisdiction containing in excess of two hundred thousand (200,000) residents shall register with the registry when he or she raises in excess of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) in any one (1) election for the campaign committee by filing official notice giving his or her name, address, occupation, employer or, if he or she is self-employed, the name under which he or she is doing business, and all candidates or slates of candidates for whom he or she is soliciting on forms prescribed by the registry. A registered fundraiser shall comply with the campaign finance reporting requirements of KRS 121.180~~[(3), (4), and (5)]~~.

- (3) All provisions of KRS 121.160 governing the duties and responsibilities of a candidate, slate of candidates, or campaign treasurer shall apply to a registered committee, except a federally registered out-of-state permanent committee, and a person acting as a campaign fundraiser. In case of the death, resignation, or removal of a campaign treasurer for a permanent committee or executive committee, the chairperson of the permanent committee or executive committee shall, within three (3) days after receiving notice of the vacancy by certified mail, appoint a successor as treasurer for the committee and file the name and address of the successor with the registry. The chairperson of the permanent committee or executive committee shall be accountable as the treasurer for the committee if the chairperson fails to meet this filing requirement.
- (4) The chairperson of a committee and the campaign treasurer shall be separate persons.
- (5) Any federally registered out-of-state permanent committee that contributes to a Kentucky candidate or a slate of candidates shall:
 - (a) File with the registry a copy of its federal registration (Federal Election Commission Form 1 - Committee Registration Form);
 - (b) File with the registry a copy of the Federal Election Commission finance report when a contribution is made to a Kentucky candidate or a slate of candidates; and

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- (c) Contribute ~~no~~not more than the maximum amount permitted for a permanent committee to make under Kentucky law to any candidate or to any slate of candidates for any office in this Commonwealth.
- (6) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a contribution made by a federally registered permanent committee to any candidate or to any slate of candidates for any office in this Commonwealth that complies with the provisions of 2 U.S.C. sec. 441b, 11 C.F.R. sec. 104.10, 11 C.F.R. sec. 106.6, and 11 C.F.R. sec. 114.1-114.12 regarding limitations on contributions by corporations shall be deemed to comply with the campaign finance laws of this Commonwealth prohibiting corporate contributions to candidates or slates of candidates.
- (7) The organization, formation, or registration of a permanent committee by any member of the General Assembly shall be prohibited.
- (8) The official contact person of a permanent committee shall not be a legislative agent as defined in KRS 6.611 or an executive agency lobbyist as defined in KRS 11A.201.

➔Section 12. KRS 121.180 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) (a)~~Any candidate, slate of candidates, or political issues committee shall be exempt from filing any preelection finance reports required by subsection (3) of this section if the candidate, slate of candidates, or political issues committee chairman files a form prescribed and furnished by the registry stating that contributions will not be accepted or expended in excess of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) in any one (1) election to further the candidacy or to support or oppose a constitutional amendment or public question which will appear on the ballot. For a candidate for judicial office who desires to be exempt from filing preelection campaign finance reports as provided in this paragraph, the request for exemption shall be filed by the campaign treasurer of the candidate's campaign committee, but the candidate shall be personally liable for~~

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~~any violation if the campaign treasurer accepts contributions or makes expenditures in excess of the limit and shall be subject to the same penalties as a candidate as provided in paragraph (1)1. or 2. of this subsection. A separate form shall be required for each primary, regular, or special election in which the candidate or slate of candidates participates or in which the public question appears on the ballot, unless the candidate, slate of candidates, or political issues committee chairman indicates on a request for exemption that the request will be applicable to more than one (1) election. The form shall be filed with the same office with which a candidate or slate of candidates files nomination papers or, in the case of a political issues committee, with the registry.~~

- (b)} Any candidate, slate of candidates, or political issues committee shall be exempt from filing any campaign finance reports required by subsections (3) and (4) of this section if the candidate, slate of candidates, or political issues committee chair~~chairman~~ files a form prescribed and furnished by the registry stating that currently no contributions have been received and that contributions will not be accepted or expended in excess of three~~one~~ thousand dollars (\$3,000)~~(\$1,000)~~ in any one (1) election. For a candidate for judicial office who desires to be exempt from filing any campaign finance reports as provided in this paragraph, the request for exemption shall be filed by the campaign treasurer of the candidate's campaign committee, but the candidate shall be personally liable for any violation if the campaign treasurer accepts contributions or makes expenditures in excess of the limit and shall be subject to the same penalties as a candidate as provided in subparagraph (k)~~(1)~~1. or 2. of this subsection. A separate form shall be required for each primary, regular, or special election in which the candidate or slate of candidates participates or in which the public question appears on the ballot, unless the candidate, slate of candidates, or

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political issues committee chair~~chairman~~ indicates on a request for exemption that the request will be applicable to more than one (1) election. The form shall be filed with the same office with which a candidate or slate of candidates files nomination papers or, in the case of a political issues committee, with the registry.

~~(b)(e)~~ For a primary~~election~~, a candidate or slate of candidates shall file a request for exemption no~~not~~ later than the deadline for filing nomination papers and, except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph ~~(c)(d)~~ of this subsection, shall be bound by its terms unless it is rescinded in writing no~~not~~ later than fifteen (15) days after the filing deadline. For a regular election, a candidate or slate of candidates shall file or rescind in writing a request for exemption no~~not~~ later than twenty-five (25) days after the date of the preceding primary~~election~~, except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph ~~(c)(d)~~ of this subsection. For a special election, a candidate or slate of candidates shall file a request for exemption no~~not~~ later than ten (10) days after the candidate or slate of candidates is nominated for a special election and shall be bound by its terms unless it is rescinded in writing no~~not~~ later than twenty-five (25) days after the date on which the nomination for a special election is made. A political issues committee chair~~chairman~~ shall file a request for exemption no~~not~~ later than ten (10) days after the date on which the committee registers with the registry and shall be bound by its terms unless it is rescinded in writing no~~not~~ later than fifteen (15) days after the date on which the request for exemption is filed.

~~(c)(d)~~ 1. A candidate or slate of candidates that revokes a request for exemption in a timely manner shall~~may exercise the remaining option or may~~ file all reports required of a candidate intending to raise or spend in excess of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) in an election. **To revoke the request for an exemption**~~If a candidate or slate of candidates elects to exercise a different~~

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~~option~~], the candidate or slate of candidates shall file the appropriate form with the registry~~[officer who received the filing papers of the candidate or slate of candidates]~~ no~~[not]~~ later than the deadline for filing a revocation.

2. A candidate for any city, urban-county government, charter county government, consolidated local government, unified local government, or county office or for any school board office, who is exempted from~~[some or all]~~ campaign finance reporting requirements pursuant to paragraph (a)~~[or (b)]~~ of this subsection but who accepts contributions or makes expenditures in excess of the exempted amount in an election, shall file all applicable reports required for the remainder of that election, based upon the amount of contributions or expenditures the candidate accepts or receives in that election. The filing of applicable required reports by a candidate after the exempted amount is exceeded shall serve as notice to the registry that the initial exemption has been rescinded. No further notice to the registry shall be required and no penalty for exceeding the initial exempted amount shall be imposed against the candidate, except for failure to file applicable reports required after the exempted amount is exceeded.

(d)~~(e)~~ Any candidate or slate of candidates that is subject to an August filing deadline and that intends to execute a request for exemption shall file the appropriate request for exemption no~~[not]~~ later than the filing deadline and, except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph (c)~~(d)~~ of this subsection, shall be bound by its terms unless it is rescinded in writing no~~[not]~~ later than fifteen (15) days after the filing deadline. A candidate or slate of candidates that is covered by this paragraph shall have the same reversion rights as those provided in subparagraph 1. of paragraph (c)~~(d)~~ of this subsection.

~~(e)(f)~~ Any candidate or slate of candidates that will appear on the ballot in a regular election that has signed ~~a~~~~either~~ request for exemption for that election may exercise the reversion rights provided in subparagraph 1. of paragraph ~~(c)(d)~~ of this subsection if a candidate or slate of candidates that is subject to an August filing deadline subsequently files in opposition to the candidate or slate of candidates. Except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph ~~(c)(d)~~ of this subsection, a candidate or slate of candidates covered by this paragraph shall comply with the deadline for rescission provided in subparagraph 1. of paragraph ~~(c)(d)~~ of this subsection.

~~(f)(g)~~ Except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph ~~(c)(d)~~ of this subsection, any candidate or slate of candidates that has filed a request for exemption for a regular election that later is opposed by a person who has filed a declaration of intent to receive write-in votes may rescind the request for exemption and exercise the reversion rights provided in subparagraph 1. of paragraph ~~(c)(d)~~ of this subsection.

~~(g)(h)~~ Any candidate or slate of candidates that has filed a request for exemption may petition the registry to determine whether another person is campaigning as a write-in candidate prior to having filed a declaration of intent to receive write-in votes, and, if the registry determines upon a preponderance of the evidence that a person who may later be a write-in candidate is conducting a campaign, the candidate or slate of candidates, except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph ~~(c)(d)~~ of this subsection, may petition the registry to permit the candidate or slate of candidates to exercise the reversion rights provided in subparagraph 1. of paragraph ~~(c)(d)~~ of this subsection.

~~(h)(i)~~ If the opponent of a candidate or slate of candidates is replaced due to his or her withdrawal because of death, disability, or disqualification, the candidate or slate of

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candidates, except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph ~~(c)~~~~(d)~~ of this subsection, may exercise the reversion rights provided in subparagraph 1. of paragraph ~~(c)~~~~(d)~~ of this subsection no~~not~~ later than fifteen (15) days after the party executive committee nominates a replacement for the withdrawn candidate or slate of candidates.

~~(i)~~~~(j)~~ A person intending to be a write-in candidate for any office in a regular or special election may execute a request for exemption under paragraph (a)~~or (b)~~ of this subsection and shall be bound by its terms unless it is rescinded in writing no~~not~~ later than fifteen (15) days after the filing deadline for the regular or special election. A person intending to be a write-in candidate who revokes a request for exemption in a timely manner shall~~may exercise the remaining exemption option or may~~ file all reports required of a candidate intending to raise or spend in excess of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) in an election. Except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph ~~(c)~~~~(d)~~ of this subsection, a person intending to be a write-in candidate who revokes a request for exemption~~elects to exercise a different exemption option~~ shall file the appropriate form with the registry~~officer who received the initial request for exemption~~ no~~not~~ later than fifteen (15) days after the filing deadline for the regular or special election.

~~(j)~~~~(k)~~ Except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph ~~(c)~~~~(d)~~ of this subsection, the campaign committee of any candidate or slate of candidates that has filed a request for exemption or a political issues committee whose chair~~chairman~~ has filed a request for exemption shall be bound by its terms unless it is rescinded in a timely manner and no new request for exemption has been executed.

~~(k)~~~~(4)~~ 1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph ~~(c)~~~~(d)~~ of this subsection, any candidate, slate of candidates, or political issues committee that

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is exempt from filing campaign finance reports pursuant to paragraph (a)~~[(b)]~~, ~~(d)~~~~[(e)]~~, or ~~(i)~~~~[(j)]~~ of this subsection that accepts contributions or makes expenditures, or whose campaign treasurer accepts contributions or makes expenditures, in excess of the applicable limit in any one (1) election without rescinding the request for exemption in a timely manner shall comply with all applicable reporting requirements and, in lieu of other penalties prescribed by law, **may be assessed a civil penalty**~~[pay a fine]~~ of **no**~~[not]~~ more than five hundred dollars (\$500) plus the amount by which the spending limit was exceeded.

2. Except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph ~~(c)~~~~[(d)]~~ of this subsection, a candidate, slate of candidates, campaign committee, or political issues committee that is exempt from filing campaign finance reports pursuant to paragraph (a)~~[(b)]~~, ~~(d)~~~~[(e)]~~, or ~~(i)~~~~[(j)]~~ of this subsection that knowingly accepts contributions or makes expenditures in excess of the applicable spending limit in any one (1) election without rescinding the request for exemption in a timely manner shall comply with all applicable reporting requirements and shall be guilty of a Class D felony.

- (2) (a) State and county executive committees, and caucus campaign committees shall make a full report, upon a prescribed form, to the registry, of all money, loans, or other things of value, received from any source, and expenditures authorized, incurred, or made, since the date of the last report, including:

1. For each contribution of any amount made by a permanent committee, the name and business address of the permanent committee, the date of the contribution, the amount contributed, and a description of the major business, social, or political interest represented by the permanent committee;

2. For other contributions in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100), the full name, address, age if less than the legal voting age, the date of the contribution, the amount of the contribution, and the employer and occupation of each contributor. If the contributor is self-employed, the name under which he or she is doing business shall be listed;
 3. The total amount of cash contributions received during the reporting period; and
 4. A complete statement of expenditures authorized, incurred, or made. The complete statement of expenditures shall include the name and address of each person to whom an expenditure is made in excess of twenty-five dollars (\$25), and the amount, date, and purpose of each expenditure.
- (b) This report shall be received by~~[in the hands of]~~ the registry~~[or postmarked]~~ within five (5) days after the thirtieth day following the primary and regular elections. If an individual gives a reportable contribution to a caucus campaign committee or to a state or county executive committee with the intention that the contribution or a portion of the contribution go to a candidate or slate of candidates, the name of the contributor and the sum shall be indicated on the committee report. The receipts and expenditures of funds remitted to each political party under KRS 141.071 to 141.073 shall be separately accounted for and reported to the registry in the manner required by KRS 121.230. The separate report may be made a separate section within the report required, by this subsection, to be received by~~[in the hands of]~~ the registry by~~[or postmarked within five (5) days after]~~ the thirtieth day following each regular election.
- (3) (a) Except for candidates or slates of candidates, campaign committees, or political issues committees exempted from reporting requirements pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, each campaign treasurer of a candidate, slate of candidates, campaign

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committee, or political issues committee who accepts contributions or expends, expects to accept contributions or expend, or contracts to expend more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000) in any one (1) election, and each fundraiser who secures contributions in excess of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) in any one (1) election, shall make a full report to the registry, on a form provided or using a format approved by the registry, of all money, loans, or other things of value, received from any source, and expenditures authorized, incurred, and made, since the date of the last report, including:

1. For each contribution of any amount made by a permanent committee, the name and business address of the permanent committee, the date of the contribution, the amount contributed, and a description of the major business, social, or political interest represented by the permanent committee;
2. For each contribution in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100) made to a candidate or slate of candidates for a statewide-elected state office, or to a campaign committee for a candidate or slate of candidates for a statewide-elected state office, the date, name, address, occupation, and employer of each contributor and the spouse of the contributor or, if the contributor or spouse of the contributor is self-employed, the name under which he or she is doing business, and the amount contributed by each contributor; and
3. For each contribution in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100) made to any candidate or campaign committee other than those specified in subparagraph 2. of this paragraph or a political issues committee, the full name, address, age if less than the legal voting age, the date of the contribution, the amount of the contribution, and the employer and occupation of each other contributor. If the contributor is self-employed, the name under which he or she is doing business

- shall be listed;
4. The total amount of cash contributions received during the reporting period; and
 5. A complete statement of all expenditures authorized, incurred, or made. The complete statement of expenditures shall include the name, address, and occupation of each person to whom an expenditure is made in excess of twenty-five dollars (\$25), and the amount, date, and purpose of each expenditure.
- (b) Reports of all candidates, slates of candidates, campaign committees, political issues committees, and registered fundraisers shall be made as follows:
1. Candidates as defined in KRS 121.015(8), slates of candidates, campaign committees, political issues committees, and fundraisers which register in the year before the year an election in which the candidate, a slate of candidates, or public question shall appear on the ballot, shall file financial reports with the registry at the end of the first calendar quarter after persons become candidates or slates of candidates, or following registration of the committee or fundraiser, and each calendar quarter thereafter, ending with the last calendar quarter of that year. Candidates, slates of candidates, committees, and registered fundraisers shall make all reports required by this section during the year in which the election takes place;
 2. *All candidates, slates of candidates, campaign committees, political issues committees, and registered fundraisers shall make reports on the sixtieth day preceding a regular election, including all previous contributions and expenditures;*
 3. All candidates, slates of candidates, campaign committees, political issues committees, and registered fundraisers shall make reports on the *twenty-fifth*~~[thirty-second]~~ day preceding an election, including all previous

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contributions and expenditures; and

~~[3. All candidates, slates of candidates, campaign committees, political issues committees, and registered fundraisers shall make reports on the fifteenth day preceding the date of the election; and]~~

4. All reports to the registry shall be received by the registry on or before each filing deadline, and any report received by the registry~~[or postmarked]~~ within five (5) days after each filing deadline shall be deemed timely filed.

(4) Except for candidates, slates of candidates, and political issues committees, exempted pursuant to subsection (1)~~(a)~~~~(b)~~ of this section, all candidates, regardless of funds received or expended, campaign committees, political issues committees, and registered fundraisers shall make post-election reports within thirty (30) days after the election, and any report received by the registry within five (5) days after each filing deadline shall be deemed timely filed.

(5) In making the preceding reports, the total gross receipts from each of the following categories shall be listed: proceeds from the sale of tickets for events such as testimonial affairs, dinners, luncheons, rallies, and similar fundraising events, mass collections made at the events, and sales of items such as campaign pins, buttons, hats, ties, literature, and similar materials. When any individual purchase or the aggregate purchases of any item enumerated above from a candidate or slate of candidates for a statewide-elected state office or a campaign committee for a candidate or slate of candidates for a statewide-elected state office exceeds one hundred dollars (\$100), the purchaser shall be identified by name, address, age, if less than the legal voting age, occupation, and employer and the employer of the spouse of the purchaser or, if the purchaser or the spouse of the purchaser is self-employed, the name under which he or she is doing business, and the amount of the purchase. When any individual purchase or the aggregate purchases of any item enumerated

above from any candidate or campaign committee other than a candidate or slate of candidates for a statewide-elected state office or campaign committee for a candidate or slate of candidates for a statewide-elected state office exceeds one hundred dollars (\$100), the purchaser shall be identified by name, address, age if less than the legal voting age, occupation, and employer, or if the purchaser is self-employed, the name under which he or she is doing business, and the amount of the purchase. The lists shall be maintained by the campaign treasurer, political issues committee treasurer, registered fundraiser, or other sponsor for inspection by the registry for six (6) years following the date of the election.

- (6) Each permanent committee, except a federally registered out-of-state permanent committee, inaugural committee, or contributing organization shall make a full report to the registry, on a form provided or using a format approved by the registry, of all money, loans, or other things of value, received by it from any source, and all expenditures authorized, incurred, or made, since the date of the last report, including:
- (a) For each contribution of any amount made by a permanent committee, the name and business address of the permanent committee, the date of the contribution, the amount contributed, and a description of the major business, social, or political interest represented by the permanent committee;
 - (b) For other contributions in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100), the full name, address, age if under the legal voting age, the date of the contribution, the amount of the contribution, and the employer and occupation of each contributor. If the contributor is self-employed, the name under which he or she is doing business shall be listed;
 - (c) An aggregate amount of cash contributions, the amount contributed by each contributor, and the date of each contribution; and
 - (d) A complete statement of all expenditures authorized, incurred, or made, including

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independent expenditures. This report shall be made by a permanent committee, inaugural committee, or contributing organization to the registry on the last day of the first calendar quarter following the registration of the committee with the registry and on the last day of each succeeding calendar quarter until such time as the committee terminates. A contributing organization shall file a report of contributions received and expenditures on a form provided or using a format approved by the registry not later than the last day of each calendar quarter in which contributions are received or expenditures are made. All reports to the registry shall be received on or before each filing deadline, and any report received by the registry within~~[postmarked or received not later than]~~ five (5) days after each filing deadline shall be deemed timely filed.

- (7) If the final statement of a candidate, campaign committee, or political issues committee shows an unexpended balance of contributions, continuing debts and obligations, or an expenditure deficit, the campaign treasurer shall file with the registry~~[a]~~ supplemental statements~~[statement]~~ of contributions and expenditures no~~[not]~~ more than thirty (30) days after the deadline for filing the final statement. Subsequent supplemental statements shall be filed annually, to be received by the registry~~[or postmarked not later than ten (10) days after]~~ by December~~[November]~~ 1 of each year, and any statement received by the registry within five (5) days after December 1 of each year shall be deemed timely filed, until the account shows no unexpended balance, continuing debts and obligations, expenditures, or deficit, or until the year before the candidate or a slate of candidates seeks to appear on the ballot for the same office for which the funds in the campaign account were originally contributed.~~[,]~~ Then~~[in which case]~~ the candidate or a slate of candidates shall file the supplemental annual report~~[not later than ten (10) days after]~~ by December ~~[November]~~ 1 of that year or at the end of the first calendar quarter of that year after the candidate or slate

of candidates files nomination papers for the next year's primary or regular election, and any report received by the registry within five (5) days after the applicable filing deadline shall be deemed timely filed. All contributions shall be subject to KRS 121.150.

- (8) All reports filed under the provisions of this chapter shall be a matter of public record open to inspection by any member of the public immediately upon receipt of the report by the registry.
- (9) A candidate or slate of candidates is relieved of the duty personally to file reports and keep records of receipts and expenditures if the candidate or slate states in writing or on forms provided by the registry that:
 - (a) Within five (5) business days after personally receiving any contributions, the candidate or slate of candidates shall surrender possession of the contributions to the treasurer of their principal campaign committee without expending any of the proceeds thereof. No contributions shall be commingled with the candidate's or slated candidates' personal funds or accounts. Contributions received by check, money order, or other written instrument shall be endorsed directly to the campaign committee and shall not be cashed or redeemed by the candidate;
 - (b) The candidate or slate of candidates shall not make any unreimbursed expenditure for the campaign, except that this paragraph does not preclude a candidate or slate from making an expenditure from personal funds to the designated principal campaign committee, which shall be reported by the committee as a contribution received; and
 - (c) The waiver shall continue in effect as long as the candidate or slate of candidates complies with the conditions under which it was granted.
- (10) No candidate, slate of candidates, campaign committee, political issues committee, or contributing organization shall use or permit the use of contributions or funds solicited or received for the person or in support of or opposition to a public issue which will appear on

the ballot to further the candidacy of the person for a different public office, to support or oppose a different public issue, or to further the candidacy of any other person for public office; except that nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to prohibit a candidate or slate of candidates from using funds in the campaign account to purchase admission tickets for any fundraising event or testimonial affair for another candidate or slate of candidates if the amount of the purchase does not exceed ~~two~~~~one~~ hundred dollars (\$200)~~(\$100)~~ per event or affair. Any funds or contributions solicited or received by or on behalf of a candidate, slate of candidates, or any committee, which has been organized in whole or in part to further any candidacy for the same person or to support or oppose the same public issue, shall be deemed to have been solicited or received for the current candidacy or for the election on the public issue if the funds or contributions are solicited or received at any time prior to the regular election for which the candidate, slate of candidates, or public issue is on the ballot. Any unexpended balance of funds not otherwise obligated for the payment of expenses incurred to further a political issue or the candidacy of a person shall, in whole or in part, at the election of the candidate or committee, escheat to the State Treasury, be returned pro rata to all contributors, or, in the case of a partisan candidate, be transferred to a caucus campaign committee, or to the state or county executive committee of the political party of which the candidate is a member except that a candidate, committee, or an official may retain the funds to further the same public issue or to seek election to the same office or may donate the funds to any charitable, nonprofit, or educational institution recognized under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and any successor thereto.

- (11) (a) For the purposes of this subsection, "election cycle," as applied to contributions, expenditures, or loans to support or oppose a candidate for a particular office, means the period of time beginning January 1 following a regular election for the office and

- ending December 31 following the next regular election for that office.
- (b) For the purpose of this subsection, "election cycle," as applied to contributions, expenditures, or loans to support or oppose a constitutional amendment or public question which appears on the ballot, means the period of time beginning January 1 following a regular election for any state legislative office and ending December 31 following the next regular election for any state legislative office.
- (c) If adequate and appropriate agency funds are available to implement this subsection, the option of electronic reporting shall be made available by the registry to all candidates, committees, registered fundraisers, and persons making independent expenditures, in addition to those candidates, slates of candidates, and campaign committees that are required to electronically report under KRS 121.120(6)(h).
- (12) Filers specified in subsection (11) of this section ~~may~~shall also continue to file required campaign finance reports in paper or electronic format ~~until the registry deems it is no longer necessary~~. *If the candidate or slate of candidates chooses to file a report in electronic format,* the electronic~~paper~~ copy shall ~~continue to~~ be the official version for audit and other legal purposes.
- (13) Filers not required to file reports electronically, as set forth in this section, are strongly encouraged to do so voluntarily.
- (14) The date that an electronic or on-line report shall be deemed to have been filed with the registry shall be the date on which it is received by the registry.
- (15) All electronic or online filers shall affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the report filed with the registry is complete and accurate.
- (16) Filers who submit computer disks which are not readable, cannot be copied, or are not accompanied by any requisite paper copy shall be deemed to not be in compliance with the requirements set forth in this section.

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- (17) No candidate is obligated to file any reports electronically, except for those candidates, slates of candidates, and campaign committees that are required to electronically report under KRS 121.120(6)(h).
- (18) (a) On each paper and electronic form that it supplies for the reports required under subsections (2), (3), and (6) of this section, the registry shall include an entry reading, "No change since last report."
- (b) If a person or entity that is required to report under subsection (2), (3), or (6) of this section has received no money, loans, or other things of value from any source since the date of its last report and has not authorized, incurred, or made any expenditures since that date, the person or entity may check or otherwise designate the entry that reads, "No change since last report." A person or entity designating this entry in a report shall state the balance carried forward from the last report but need not specify receipts or expenditures in further detail."